The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

From Thursday January 6. to Monday January 10. 1708.

By the QUEEN,

A PROCLAMATION,

For Encouraging Seamen and Landmen to Enter themselves on Board Her Majesty's Ships of War.

ANNE R.

WHereas it is our Royal Intention to give all due Encouragement to all such Seamen and Able bodied Landmen, who shall voluntarily Enter themselves in our Service, and remain on Board our Ships of War in our Royal Navy, we have thought fit (by and with the Advice of our Privy-Council) to Publish this our Royal Proclamation; And We do hereby Promise and Declare, That all such Seamen, and Able-bodied Landmen (not above the Age of Fifty five Years, and not under the Age of Sixteen Years) who on or between the Thirtieth Day of this Instant December, *and the Twenty fifth Day of* March *next, shall Voluntarily Enter themselves in Our Service, with a Commission-Officer of any of Our Ships of War, or with any Justice of the Peace, or Chief Magistrate of any Town, or with any Vice-Admiral, to serve on Board any of our Ships or Vessels of War, (Tenders only excepted) shall receive, as our free Gift and Royal Bounty, the respective Rewards and Allowances following; (That is to say) every such Seaman two Months Pay, and every such Able-bodied Landman one Months Pay, to be paid to them respectively by the Principal Officers and Commissioners of our Navy, before the respective Ships, on which they shall be, do proceed to Sea. And We do hereby require and direct, That if any such Seaman, or Able bodied Landman, shall within the time before-mentioned, enter himself with any Justice of the Peace, or Chief Magistrate of any Town, or with any Vice-Admiral, or other Commission-Officer, to serve on Board any of our Ships of War, or other Vessels before mentioned, such Justice of the Peace, or Chief Magistrate, Vice-Admiral, or other Commission-Officer respectively, shall give to each Man so entring a Certificate under his Hand and Seal, without Fee or Reward, of his Entry, and the time of such Entry, and for what Ship, and shall thereby limit such a number of Days (not exceeding fourteen Days) as may be necessary for his repairing on Board such Ship, or any other Ship, Tender, or Bomb Vessel in our Service, at the next Port which shall be appointed to receive them. And we do hereby declare, That all such Seamen, and Able-bodied Landmen, who within the time aforesaid, shall enter themselves, as aforesaid, and within the time limited and appointed in such Certificate, repair on Board any of our said Ships or Tenders appointed to receive them, (according to their Qualifications aforesaid, and not otherwise) shall be entituled to our Royal Bounty herein before appointed, and intended for them respectively, and to their Pay from the time of their first Entring with such Justice of the Peace, or other Officer, as aforesaid; And that they shall be allowed time without Molestation to render themselves on Board our Ships of War: And therefore we do hereby require and command all Captains commanding any of our Ships of War, or other our Ships, and all other Persons whatsoever, authorized or impowered to impress Mariners for our Service, That they do not impress any such Seamen, or Able bodied Landmen, to whom such Certificate, as aforesaid, shall be given, according to the true Intent and Meaning of this our Royal Proclamation, or any Men now in our Service, who by Tickets signed by any of our Flag Officers, have or shall have leave to be absent from their Duty to the said twenty fifth Day of* March, *before they shall fail to render themselves on Board such of our said Ships or Vessels, on which they shall enter themselves to serve, or to which they shall belong, according to the Time limited by such Certificates or Tickets; nor any Person or Persons protected, or imployed in the River, or on the Coasts, by the Commissioners of our Navy, Ordnance, Victualling, Customs, or Transportation, or the Watermen in our Service. And to the end we may be truly informed what Persons shall so enter and render themselves to serve on Board our Fleet, in pursuance of this our Royal Proclamation, we do hereby require and command our respective Captains commanding any of our said Ships of War, or other our Ships or Vessels, as aforesaid, and also all Justices of the Peace, chief Magistrates, Vice-Admiral, and other Commission Officers aforesaid respectively, to transmit to the Principal Officers and Commissioners of our Navy exact Lists and Accounts of the Names, Ages and Descriptions of the Persons who shall voluntarily enter themselves with them, and the Time when, and Place where, and for what Ship, and of the Time which shall be allowed them respectively for rendring themselves on Board, and of the Time of their respective repairing on Board any of our said Ships. And we do hereby require and command the said Seamen and Landmen to repair on Board the respective Ships, on which they shall so enter themselves, or to which they shall belong, within the Time limited by such Certificates or Tickets, on Pain of our highest Displeasure. And we are graciously pleased further to declare, That Conduct-Mony, according to the Practice of the Navy, shall be allowed to all such Seamen and Landmen so Voluntarily entring themselves on Board, according to the true Meaning of this our Royal Proclamation. And for preventing any Deceits or Abuses which may happen by any Person or Persons leaving the Ships to which they belong, and entring him or themselves on Board any other of our Ships, in order to obtain the Bounty-Mony herein before granted, we do hereby likewise direct, declare and command, That such Seamen and Landmen belonging to any of our Ships or Vessels whatsoever, as shall absent themselves from any of the Ships or Vessels to which they shall belong, and shall enter themselves on Board any other of our Ships, in order to obtain the said Bounty-Mony, shall not only lose the Wages due to them in the Ships they shall so leave, but also shall be severely punished according to their Demerits. And we do hereby further declare, That if such Men in our Service, who are or shall be permitted to be absent by such Tickets, as aforesaid, do not repair on Board their respective Ships by the Time allowed by such Tickets, they shall not only be liable to be Impress, but to suffer such other Punishment as by Law may be inflicted on them for such their Neglect. And we do hereby require all our Justices of the Peace, and other Magistrates, and also all our Captains of our Ships, and others, who shall be imployed in Impressing Men for our Fleet, That they take particular Care not to take up, Impress or Entertain any very old Men, Boys, or others, who by reason of Infirmity, or otherwise, are not fitly qualified for our Service in our Royal Navy, for that none such shall be received by the Officers of our Fleet into our Service. And we do hereby require and command all our Justices of the Peace, Chief Magistrates, Constables, and other Officers, That they do use their utmost Endeavours to secure, send and deliver to the Commissioners of our Navy at some near Sea-Port-Town, or to such other Person as shall be appointed to receive them, all such Seamen, Watermen, Bargemen and Lightermen, fit for our Service, as shall be found straggling, in order to their being put on Board our Fleet in our Service, and that of what they shall do therein, they from time to time send an Account to the Commissioners of our Navy. And we do hereby direct the respective Officers of our Fleet, who shall receive such Seamen, to give Receipts for them, therein expressing the Names of such Seamen, and on Board what Ship or Vessel, and the time when, and the place where they are received. And the Commissioners of our Navy are hereby directed to give Order, upon producing (at any Port where there are Officers immediately under their Directions) the said Receipts, to pay to the Person producing the same, twenty Shillings for each Seaman, and* six Pence per *Man for each Mile he shall be brought above twenty Miles. And we do hereby declare, That no Protection of any Man in any Ships or Vessels imployed in the River, or on the Coast, by the Commissioners of our Navy Ordnance, Victualling, Customs or Transportation, shall be in Force for more than six Months from the Date thereof, (except such as shall be signed by our Lord High Admiral.) And we do further direct, That in all Protections the Persons be not only named, but described by their Place of Residence, and Imployment, and Service for which they are Protected. And that if any of the said Persons shall be found upon the Water in any other Service than what they are protected for, they shall be liable to be Impress, except the Watermen*